

Partners



News for The Provider Community

SPRING / SUMMER 2008

School Readiness Continues To Rise Among Maryland Kindergartners

Modest Improvement Over The Past Year Build's On State's Consistent Record Of Improvement

Children entering kindergarten in Maryland are better prepared to begin school than in years past, according to a new report by the Maryland State Department of Education (MSDE).

"Children Entering School Ready to Learn - School Readiness

Information for School Year 2007-2008," a report by MSDE's Division of Early Childhood Development, revealed modest, steady progress in all demographic subgroups. Maryland students entering kindergarten fully prepared for learning increased by 1 percent from 2007 to 2007, up to 68 percent. That is up 19 percentage points since the baseline year of 2002.

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Notes from the Director's Office

by Liz Kelley

It's hard to believe that a whole year has passed since I became the Director for the Office of Child Care. And what a year it has been! We have continued to implement the action steps we outlined in the Division's Strategic Plan – New Training Requirements, Reformatting the Regulations, Curriculum Project Implementation, and many other initiatives. With each project and plan come changes. While change can be difficult, we all know that change is constant and unavoidable. With the changes we are also faced with challenges. Some of these challenges include retaining qualified staff, improving programs and environments for children and maintaining compliance with regulations. All of this with limited resources. We all hear in the

news that this is a difficult time in our State and the nation. Funds have been cut and staff numbers decreased. As a result, we all have to work smarter and more efficiently. But isn't that something the early/school-age child care field has always done? You have always found ways to get the job done – and done well. Your flexibility, creativeness, and a willingness to do what needs to be done, ensures that children have access to experiences that will long influence their lives. I hope you will take a little time to reflect this summer on your experiences over the past year and decide what you would like to accomplish in the coming year. I know I will. Have a wonderful summer and don't forget to take time for yourself – to rejuvenate and refresh.

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Jacqueline Blanding and Myra White-Gray shopping in the Storyville store. **page 6**

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Credentialing Program



PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT UPDATES

What does "Professional Development" mean?

Professional Development in child care and early education is the process of obtaining a specialized body of knowledge and competencies that are shared by all. The Maryland Child Care Credentialing Program: A pathway to professional development for early child care educators, states that, The Early Childhood Education Professional has knowledge that all practitioners need to know regardless of role, setting, or level.

What can the Credentialing program do for you?

The purpose of the Credentialing Program is to provide a pathway for early child care educators as they pursue training and career development.

Did you know that we can provide overview of the credentialing programs to center staff?

For more information on how we can assist you in achieving your credentialing goals, please contact our office.

- Participation is easy. Complete the Maryland Child Care Credential Application form and send in copies of training certificates, college transcripts, documentation of experience and professional activity. Applications for the Credentialing program are available at each of our Child Care Regional Offices, the Resource & Referral Centers across the State and on the web at www.marylandpublicschools.org/msde/division/child_care/credentials.
- Don't forget to submit your renewals. Each year of participation you need to send in a renewal application with your training and professional activity unit documentation. When your packet is received we will send out a post-card (the blue card) to let you know your information has been received. We are still working through issues with CCATS (Child Care Automated Tracking System), therefore, please be patient with us as we process the applications and information.

New Credentialing Program Regulations

The regulations went into effect September 7, 2007. The new regulation stipulates:

- Options for achieving Credentialing at Levels 4 Plus, 5 and 6,
- An Administrator's Credentialing, and
- The Career and Professional Development Fund that will be available to child care providers participating in the Credentialing Program to pay for the cost of college coursework and related fees in the pursuit of a degree in early childhood education or a

related field.

Information about the Credentialing, incentive programs and applications are available at

www.marylandpublicschools.org/msde/division/child_care/credentials or contact the Office of Child Care – Credentialing Branch, at 410-767-7852.

Revamping the Training Approval Process!

It is an exciting time for the Credentialing Branch; we are revamping the training approval process. Approving training proposals is a crucial aspect of the credentialing program. We have recently begun an extensive process to create new ways to review and approve the training proposals. The new process will allow us to process all training proposals within 60 days from the date the application is received in the Credentialing office. There was more I wanted to put into this issue than you would be interested in reading, so I am dividing this into two newsletters. Look forward to more information on these changes in the next issue of the Partners newsletter.

Angeline Bishop-Oshoko, Program Manager
Credentialing Branch

New Credentialing Branch Program Manager

DECD welcomes Angeline Bishop-Oshoko, as the new Program Manager for the Credentialing Branch in the Office of Child Care. Prior to her promotion, Angeline was the Operations Chief for the Credentialing Program, November 2001 - February 2008.

She previously worked as the Family and Community Partnership Program Manager for the Head Start program in Howard County, and was the Program Manager for the Income Maintenance unit at the Department of Social Services in New York. She can be reached at 410-767-7852 or Angeline.Bishop-osho@msde.state.md.us.



Big Changes In Effect and Coming Soon

New training regulations will go

into effect July 1, 2008,

increasing the pre-service and continued training clock hours needed to fulfill regulatory requirements. Training sessions have been held across the State to ensure that the information about the new training requirements has been explained and how they will affect the child care community. Some have asked if the State will help pay for the cost of the additional training hours required. The Office underwrites numerous training grants and contracts to

provide no or low cost training. In addition, those participating in the Maryland Child Care Credential Program, at Level Two or higher, have access to up to \$400 each year of participation to pay for the cost of training.

Family Day Care Homes, Child Care Center and Letter of Compliance regulations have all been revised and reformatted. Over a period of several months committees have worked to eliminate redundancies, inconsistencies, and provide clarity. The schedule is to have the regulations in place by the end of September. To see the full content of the regulations go to the Maryland Register at <http://www.dsd.state.md.us>.

School Readiness Continues To Rise Among Maryland Kindergartners

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“Children who have a good start in learning before they begin kindergarten do better in school,” said Nancy S. Grasmick, State Superintendent of Schools. “It is clear that this message is getting out to most households, but every family needs to know how important this is.”

The annual MSDE study reflects portfolio assessment information of kindergartners’ readiness levels in social and personal areas, language and literacy, mathematical thinking, scientific thinking, social studies, the arts, physical development, and health.

The MSDE study found improvement in school readiness in many demographic categories. For example:

- School readiness levels for English Language Learners went up six percentage points between 2006 and 2007, from 49 percent to 55 percent.
- The improvement in school readiness for low-income children—students receiving free or reduced price meals—was one percent overall, from 58 to 59 percent.
- The percent of special education students deemed fully ready for kindergarten remained flat at 43 percent, but that is 13 points higher than it was when the survey project began in 2002.

The study results highlight the importance of high-quality early learning opportunities. Children who spent time in early care settings started school better prepared for learning than those who remained at home or in the homes of

relatives, the research found. Children enrolled in pre-k programs (70 percent fully ready for kindergarten), child care centers (72 percent) and non-public nursery schools (83 percent) the year prior to kindergarten exhibited stronger school readiness levels than those who were at home or in informal care settings the year prior to kindergarten.

Maryland’s annual school readiness report is the result of legislative action to gauge the progress on school readiness skills of incoming kindergartners. This year, more than 2,000 kindergarten teachers used portfolio-based assessment to document their students’ performance in their classrooms during the first 8 weeks of school.

Kindergarten teachers evaluated and rated student performance between Nov. 5 and Nov. 21, 2007, using the early childhood assessment protocol and specific guidelines that were developed by MSDE. The assessment information in the report reflects scores for each of the seven domains of learning, such as literacy, math, and social skills, as well as the composite score of all domains.

MSDE is a national leader in statewide early childhood education assessment, establishing an annual evaluation of what entering kindergartners know and are able to do. The complete School Readiness report will be available soon on the MSDE website, www.marylandpublicschools.org.

Child Care Subsidy Helpline in Action for One Year



Happy Anniversary! The MSDE Child Care Provider Help Line is celebrating its one year anniversary. Implemented April 2007 to help providers and families access information pertaining to the child care subsidy program, it has been a great success. During the last year, the provider help line responded to more than 10,000 calls and 2894 emails. The Help Line staff has consistently given providers the information they've requested.

Along with the MSDE Provider Help Line, DECD is working closely with the Local Departments of Social Services to ensure that providers and families are able to access information pertaining to the child care subsidy program. This partnership allows providers and families to access the necessary people to get answers to their questions.

MSDE Help Line Staff can view information in the automated system to give information pertaining to:

- Invoice Status
- Payment Status
- Voucher Status

The Local Department of Social Services determines parent eligibility, issue vouchers, and process invoices.

They enter the necessary data into CCATS to determine ongoing parent eligibility, issue and receipt vouchers and process invoices. They can give information pertaining to:

- Subsidy Eligibility
- Voucher Status
- Invoice Processing
- Payment Status

To obtain information use the following resources:

MSDE Provider Help Line:

Phone: 1-866-243-8796

Email: poc.help@msde.state.md.us

Website: www.marylandpublicschools.org/MSDE/divisions/child_care/purchase_of_care/

The Three Largest Local Departments of Social Services:

Baltimore City: 443-423- 5054

Baltimore County: 410-853-3096

Prince George's County: 301-909-6139

Website: www.dhr.state.md.us.

Wor-Wic Receives Child Care Challenge Award

The on-campus child development center at Wor-Wic Community College was selected to receive the 2008 Child Care challenge award from the Women Legislators of Maryland. The center was recognized and awarded at the Maryland Women's Hall of Fame Ceremony, Wednesday, March 12, 2008.

The award recognizes businesses and organizations that have developed solutions to child care or committed resources to designing a program for children of working parents. Selection is based on the effective use of scarce funds, care for under-served communities and innovative programs to aid working parents. Wor-Wic's center was nominated for the award by Delegate James Mathias, D-38B.

The child development center at Wor-Wic opened in the fall of 2006 to enable more area residents who have children to attend college.



From left to right: Joyce Nixon, Early Childhood Accreditation Specialist; Sandra L. March, Director, Child Development Center; First Lady Katie O'Malley; Terry Crenshaw, Special Education Teacher; Linda Zang, Head Start State Collaboration Coordinator; and, Angeline Bishop-Oshoko, MSDE/OCC Credentialing Branch Program Manager

The center offers quality educational programs for children from 2 to 5 years old during the day and for children from 2 to 12 years old in the evening. Sandra L. March of Salisbury has been director of the center since its inception.

Child care services are provided for children of Wor-Wic students and employees, as well as local residents on a space-available basis. For more information, visit www.worwic.edu or call the child development center at 410-334-2962.



Catch the Reading Bug! @ your Maryland Public Library

summer in connection with the theme, “Catch the Reading Bug”. Children who register for the summer reading program in some systems are eligible for prizes. Best of all, you are providing quality experiences to the children in your care which will guide them on their way to readiness for school.

How to enroll: Register at your local public library sometime in June.

What to do: Read some books together or let the children look at books during quiet moments. The public library has plenty of picture books for all types of interests.

Then: Return to the library and let them know your progress.

Join with thousands of other Marylanders and participate in the Summer Reading club at your local public library. The library will be offering special programs for children this



Celebrates Reading!

Celebree Learning Centers Sponsors Harford County Public Library's Preschool Summer Reading Program

May 14, 2008 — Celebree Learning Centers®, a preschool and child care provider, announced its partnership with Harford County Public Library as the exclusive sponsor of their Pre-School Summer Reading Program — “Read to Me: Catch the Reading Bug!”

Harford County Public Library will launch its Summer Reading Program on June 16. The Program provides an opportunity for children to continue their reading skills over the summer through fun and leisure. This year's theme is “Catch the Reading Bug!” Children will read, study, and learn about bugs in all forms, from microscopic invaders and environmental pests to the bugs that invade our computers. Each library branch has a calendar of events incorporating crafts, games, and learning, along with awards and prizes.

Thousands of Harford County children will benefit from the summer reading program. “Last year over 15,000 kids participated in the Summer Reading Program,” said Audra Caplan, Harford County Public Library director. “The program plays a critical role in maintaining reading levels

over the summer break, relating directly to scholastic improvements to the No Child Left Behind Act.”

The Pre-school “Read to Me” Summer Reading Program is designed for infants through preschoolers. The focus of this program is to reach out to children while they are young, to help them identify reading as an activity that is fun, entertaining, and a regular part of life.

“Supporting the preschool summer reading program is directly in line with Celebree's values to Protect, Educate, and Nurture our children,” explains Richard Huffman, Celebree's founder and president. We are thankful for this opportunity to partner with the library in promoting the importance of reading, in motivating our children to want to read, and getting them excited about reading.”

CONGRATULATIONS!

Detria Courtalis of Celebree Learning Centers has been named a BRAVO! Women Business Achievement Award winner. She will be honored, along with 24 other women, at the BRAVO! event on July 24th. Detria will also be profiled in the July issue of Washington SmartCEO Magazine.

Stroll Down Storyville Lane

Baltimore County Public Library's Storyville, an interactive early literacy-learning center inside the Rosedale Library, 6105 Kenwood Ave., opened with a ribbon-cutting ceremony on Thursday, February 7. A two-year-long project funded with money raised by the Foundation for Baltimore County Public Library. The child-sized, 2,240-square-foot village provides hands-on learning opportunities and activities for children age's birth to six years with parents or caregivers to help young children enter school ready to learn.

It occupies the library wing that was previously the children's section. Visitors can explore the seven museum-quality learning areas in the village that comprises a two-story house, a library, theater, store, Chesapeake Bay waterfront, baby garden and construction site for children and adults to experience together. Each area is furnished with fun and engaging age-appropriate play materials and activities that promote vital cognitive, motor, language and social school

readiness skills, depending on the age group.

Babies can engage in peek-a-boo and play with manipulative toys or look at board books in their garden; toddlers can crawl through driftwood, sit in a lighthouse and gaze up at the stars, fish, or rock in a toy boat; older children can play house in the home living area, give plays and puppet shows in the theater, shop in the store and practice building at the construction site. In the library stocked with a variety of children's books, DVDs, musical CDs, comfortable seating invites reading together. Materials and resources placed at each location are available for parents and caregivers to take home.

Storyville is open during library hours: Monday-Thursday, 9 a.m. to 9 p.m.; Friday and Saturday, 9 a.m. to 5:30 p.m.; and Sunday 1 p.m. to 5 p.m. Groups need to call the library in advance at 410-887-0512 ext. 113 to make arrangements. For further information, call 410-887-6196.



Early Childhood Curriculum Project

State-Recommended Curricular Resources for Infants and Toddlers (birth – age 3)

As part of the Early Childhood Curriculum Project, the Maryland State Department of Education has announced the identification of state-recommended curricular resources for infants and toddlers (birth – age 3). The state-recommended curricular resources for infants and toddlers are The Ounce Scale published by Pearson and The Creative Curriculum for Infants, Toddlers, and Twos published by Teaching Strategies. A matrix identifying information about these resources can be located under the heading, State-Recommended Infants and Toddlers Curricular Resources Matrix found at http://www.marylandpublicschools.org/MSDE/divisions/child_care/preschool_curriculum/. This site also provides information about the project including the state-recommended comprehensive curricula for 3, 4, and 5 year-

olds and the guidelines for programs who are seeking state or federal funding.

The Early Childhood Curriculum Project is intended to offer resource for the non-public school classroom that match the state's prekindergarten and kindergarten curricular frameworks also known as the Maryland Model for School Readiness (MMSR) Framework and Standards for Prekindergarten and for Kindergarten / Voluntary State Curriculum (VSC). The state-recommended curricular resources for infants and toddlers are aligned with Guidelines for Healthy Child Development and Care of Young Children (birth – 3). This initiative was begun to provide guidance to non-public early childhood programs as part of a three-year strategic plan to improve early learning opportunities for young children before they begin their formal school.



Child Care Providers Educators by Choice

Maryland State Family Child Care Association

Established 1983

Friday, October 10 - Sunday, October 12, 2008

We are excited to invite you to **“Child Care Providers, Educators by Choice”** the Sixteenth Annual Conference of the Maryland State Family Child Care Association (MSFCCA). The theme for this year’s conference is designed to support the choice we make each day to be educators to the children in our care. The conference is organized annually to support child care providers statewide with quality training, as well as an opportunity to network and obtain educational materials and resources.

This year we will be having our 25th Anniversary Dinner/Dance from 7:00 pm – 11:00 pm on Friday night. We will begin serving breakfast Saturday morning at 8:00 am. You may visit the exhibitors from 8:00 am – 2:00 pm. Announcements for the day begin at 8:30 am. The remainder of your Saturday will be filled with two, two hour sessions and lunch will be served at 11:45 am. Your down time begins at 4:00 pm, unless you choose to include a mini-session. On Sunday, breakfast will begin promptly at 8:00 am, followed by the closing session from 9:00 am-10:00 am. Following the closing session, the MSFCCA Board Members will hold their Quarterly Meeting; all providers are welcome to attend. Just a

reminder that check out time is 11:00 am. If you have never attended a weekend conference, this is an experience you do not want to miss. Consider taking Friday off, so you can begin well rested. Remember all costs associated with this conference are tax deductible and you can also use your Credential training money for registration cost. You can also receive up to 7.5 hours of approved Core of Knowledge and 2 hours of OCC Continued Training credit. This weekend is for you – the child care professional/educator – come join us for our best conference yet.



**The Princess Royale Hotel
9100 Coastal Highway
Ocean City, Maryland**

Maryland State Family Child Care Association Conference

CONFERENCE SCHEDULE

FRIDAY OCTOBER 10

2:00 pm – 7:00 pm	Registration (Closing early for Dinner/Dance)
2:00 pm – 7:00 pm	Visit Exhibitors and Silent Auction
4:00 pm – 6:00 pm	Mini Sessions A - E
6:45 pm – 7:00 pm	Welcome Remarks
7:00 pm – 11:00 pm	Dinner will be served
	MARYLAND STATE FAMILY CHILD CARE ASSOCIATION PRESENTS its 25TH ANNIVERSARY DINNER AND DANCE!
	DJ -Daryl with Concentric Sound will spin us into a fun filled evening while we celebrate this event!

SATURDAY OCTOBER 11

7:45 am – 9:00 am	Registration
8:00 am – 9:00 am	Breakfast Buffet
8:00 am – 8:15 am	Announcements
8:00 am – 2:00 pm	Visit Exhibitors
9:30 am – 11:30 am	Morning Sessions F - J Classes <i>Please Select One</i>
11:30 am – 1:45 pm	Visit Exhibitors, MSFCCA Sales Table and Silent Auction
11:30 am – 12:30 pm	Lunch
12:30 pm – 1:30 pm	General Session <i>“Partners on the Path of Childhood: The Adult’s Role”</i>
	Jacky Howell, MCCA Training Institute
	This upbeat inspiring presentation focuses on us as adults and how we influence children's development. How can we participate in a child's positive growing sense of self as well as the child being able to be a member of a community? Come laugh, sing and remember how we as adults can partner children in their childhood in caring, connected, positive ways!
1:45 pm	FINAL BIDS FOR THE SILENT AUCTION
2:00 pm – 4:00 pm	Afternoon Sessions K - O Classes <i>Please Select One</i>
4:15 pm – 5:45 pm	Mini Sessions Optional P - T <i>Please Select One</i>
7:00 pm – 8:00 pm	MSFCCA Annual Meeting of the Members

SUNDAY OCTOBER 12

8:00 am – 9:00 am	Breakfast
9:00 am – 10:00 am	Closing Session

“IMAGINE THAT! A SING-ALONG CELEBRATION” Rick and Audrey Engdahl

As a child care provider you give all you have for the sake of your children and your business. Now it's time to get re-energized! This high-energy, interactive concert and sing-along will feature call-and-response songs, new twists to old familiar tunes, new songs, dances, and games to take back home. Expect useful information and a huge dose of fun!

10:00 am – 10:30 am	Break
11:00 am	Hotel/condo Check-Out
11:30 am - 2:00 pm	Executive Committee and Directors Quarterly Board Meeting

Maryland State Family Child Care Association Conference

Maryland State Family Child Care Association Conference

FRIDAY MINI SESSIONS

- A. ***“Office of Child Care Roundtable”*** *Professional*
Office of Child Care Division of Early Childhood Development
Liz Kelley, Director Office of Child Care

This session is for those who would like to meet some of the Maryland State Department of Education, Office of Child Care staff. Learn up-to-date information about registration issues, and ask questions of the panel. Questions will be written and collected at the beginning of this workshop.

- B. ***“Mathematical Thinking”*** *Curriculum*
Amy Dapsauski, Director of Training and Technical Assistance, MSFCCA

Children need to increase mathematical thinking skills so they can enter school prepared to succeed. Learn fun activities to explore mathematical thinking in your program!

- C. ***“Nutrition”*** *Health, Safety and Nutrition*
Anna Arrowsmith and Shannon Fries, MSDE/Nutrition Program Branch

Participants will learn the current recommendations and guidelines for nutrition and physical activity for preschool -age children. They will learn how to translate that knowledge into practice. Resources will also be provided to involve families in role modeling these healthy behaviors.

- D. ***“Are You A Bully?”*** *Professional*
Deborah Enright, Trainer and MSFCCA V. P. of Public Policy

Creating positive interaction with children can have a lasting affect. Learn ways to de-stress so that every interaction you have is a positive one with children. Keeping your environment engaging and appropriate, using it as the "Second Provider in the Room".

- E. ***“Credentialing”*** *Professional*
Angeline Bishop-Oshoko Office of Childcare Operating Chief, Credentialing Branch

The Maryland Child Care Credentialing program provides a framework of requirements and incentives that recognize education, experience and professional activities working in Maryland's child care delivery system.

SATURDAY MORNING SESSIONS

- F. ***“Making Meetings Work for You” – Part I**** *Professional*
Steve Rohde, Acting Executive Director, Maryland Committee for Children

Sometimes the toughest part of our workday is not working with children, but working with fellow professionals. This workshop will review some of the challenges we face when we have meetings with our adult peers. We will cover the basics of organizing and running a meeting, as well as making sure that things get accomplished that were agreed upon.

** You must attend Part I during the am session and Part II during the pm session in order to receive a certificate.*

SESSIONS CONTINUED ON NEXT PAGE

Maryland State Family Child Care Association Conference

G. **“De Proveedora a Promotora:”** *Community – Spanish Track*

Promoviendo el Liderazgo entre Proveedoras Latinas.

Mayra Cruz-Solís, Outreach and Leadership Coordinator, Centro Familia.

Este seminario tiene como objetivo resaltar la importancia de que las Proveedoras de Cuidado Infantil en el Hogar se involucren en trabajo comunitario, convirtiéndose en promotoras y abogadas de la educación Infantil; desarrollando sus capacidades de liderazgo y sirviendo e influenciando su comunidad.

H. **“Scientific Thinking”** *Curriculum*

Amy Dapsauski - Director of Training and Technical Assistance, MSFCCA

You don't have to be a Rocket Scientist to explore science with children! However, you may create one! Learn fun activities to do with children to promote scientific thinking and school readiness.

I. **“Grant Writing Made Simple”** *Professional*

Donna Fowler - Director of Public Policy, MSFCCA

Learn the basics of grant writing: How to show a compelling need, from data to documenting evaluation and monitoring methods.

J. **“Understanding the Academic Implications of Motor Development in Infants and Toddlers”** *Child Development*

Amy Weaver - Technical Assistant at Anne Arundel Community College

Infants and Toddlers today are often missing a very important step in their development, the freedom to move. In this session, participants will examine various stages of motor development in its natural time line.

SATURDAY AFTERNOON SESSIONS

K. **“Making Meetings Work For You” - Part II*** *Professional*

Steve Rohde- Acting Executive Director, Maryland Committee for Children

Sometimes the toughest part of our workday is not working with children, but when we work with fellow professionals. This workshop will review some of the challenges we face when we have meetings with our adult peers. We will cover the basics of facilitating meetings and other settings when we are working with adults in groups.

*You must attend Part I during the am session and Part II during the pm session in order to receive a certificate.

L. **“Divirtiéndonos Mientras Observamos y Evaluamos”** *Child Development- Spanish Track*

Rossana Espinoza-Thomdahl, Early Childhood Specialist, Centro Familia

Este seminario pretende darles a las proveedoras las herramientas y recursos necesarios para crear oportunidades de aprendizaje diarias que ayuden al desarrollo integral del niño. Las proveedoras aprenderán a reconocer la importancia de la observación y de la organización y el análisis de las impresiones recogidas en este proceso y como utilizar estos resultados para Planear lecciones y currículo.

M. **“Taxes for Child Care Providers”** *Professional*

Duane Bennett, CPA, MBA, PA

We will cover “Hot Topics” such as audits, exclusive use of home rules, square footage/time percentage, depreciation, standard meal allowance, capital gains, Federal ID numbers and whether to incorporate your business, just to mention a few.

Maryland State Family Child Care Association Conference

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N. ***“Language To Increase Compliance - Saying What You Mean and Meaning What You Are Saying”*** *Special Needs*

Teresa Morrish, Md. E, The Maryland Child & Adolescent Mental Health Institute

There are many providers, teachers and parents who are faced with the challenge of managing the behavior of children. A major concern for adults, are children who do not comply with directions, do not listen, are stubborn and at times state "no"! So do you know what to do when faced with these challenges? Or more importantly what to say?

O. ***“Ethics - What's Wrong with Who?”*** *Community*

Cecilia Johnson, Trainer

This workshop will help providers understand there are effective ways of establishing and maintaining a business, encourage healthy and responsible behavior in their business, and promote themselves as a successful child care professional.

SATURDAY MINI SESSIONS (OPTIONAL)

P. ***“Steps To Accreditation”*** *Professional*

Amy Dapsauski, Director of Training and Technical Assistance, MSFCCA

Do you want to increase your professionalism? Learn about National Accreditation in Family Child Care. Commit yourself to quality child care.

Q. ***“Family Child Care Advocacy 101”*** *Professional*

Debbie Moore, Maryland Committee for Children

Let's talk about the basic information you will need to understand what is going on during the annual session of the Maryland General Assembly. Learn how to use the internet to find out who is representing you and what Bills and Budget items will have an impact on your family child care business. We will discuss how you can make your VOICE heard in Annapolis.

R. ***“At Risk, But Full of Potential”*** *Special Needs*

Nichele Mason, Maryland Committee for Children

The goal of early child care providers and parents of young children is for each child to reach their full potential. This workshop will begin by identifying children who may be at risk for experiencing learning difficulties. This will be followed by allowing the importance of a systematic approach for recognizing and responding to early signs of learning difficulties in your children to help mitigate or prevent later learning problems.

S. ***“Manejando su negocio Exitosamente “*** *Professional – Spanish Track*

Erica Serrano, Programs Director, Centro Familia

Este seminario mostrará a las proveedoras la importancia de ser reguladas y organizadas como pequeño negocio. Discutiremos y analizaremos maneras fácil y baratas de hacer mercadeo y como mejorar su negocio usando el bilingüismo y el bi-culturalismo como una herramienta de mercadeo efectiva. Exploraremos la importancia de incorporar su negocio, establecer reglas y políticas de funcionamiento y mantener límites entre las finanzas y los asuntos familiares y los del negocio.

T. ***“Relationships - Resources – Results”*** *Community*

Donna Fowler, Director of Public Policy, MSFCCA

Find out who your child care partners and resources are, what they do, and how you can collaborate with them for the benefit of the children in your care.

The Division of Early Childhood Development at the
Maryland State Department of Education (MSDE) co-sponsored this event.

Maryland State Family Child Care Association Conference

Maryland State Family Child Care Association Conference

IMPORTANT INFORMATION

- Although unlikely, classes and/or instructors are subject to change.
- Electronic equipment is not to be used during any general session or workshop (i.e. tape recorders, cell phones, beepers and video cameras).
- Children and guests may not attend general sessions, workshops or meals (except prepaid Friday Night Dinner/Dance).
- Workshops are assigned as registrations are received. Class sizes are limited (early registration is recommended).
- Once workshops have been assigned, they CANNOT be changed.
- Confirmations will be mailed by 9/30/08.
- For full conference participants, there will be 7.5 hours of Core of Knowledge Training available (including both mini-sessions) and there will be 2 hours of OCC Continued Training.
- For "Saturday Only" there will be 5.5 hours of Core of Knowledge Training available, including mini-session.
- Participants must be present for entire session in order to receive training credit. Partial credit will not be given for a workshop/session due to late arrival or early departure.

HOTEL REGISTRATION INFORMATION

Note: Hotel reservations and conference fees are **TWO** separate items. Contact the hotel to make your own reservations **AND** complete the registration form for the conference. It is recommended that you make your hotel/condo reservations early.

Call Princess Royale 1-800-476-9253 by 9/10/08.

Web-Site: www.princessroyale.com.

Check-In 4:00 pm, Check-Out: 11:00 am.

Hotel Cost: Single and double occupancy for oceanview and poolview \$99/night. Oceanfront \$134/night, each additional occupant is \$15/night per person. Oceanfront condo \$224/night 2BR/2BA, plus 10% State and Local tax.

Be sure to mention MSFCCA to receive conference rates (if you have a problem with the reservations, ask for Bonnie Waltman). The Hotel is doing a Multi Million Dollar Renovation and the entire hotel is now smoke free.

Checks are not accepted as payment for hotel

MSFCCA is now accepting Discover, Visa and Mastercard for Registration, MSFCCA Sales and Silent Auction.

QUESTIONS? If you have internet access, e-mail Cathy Greer littlemunchkins8@hotmail.com or call her at 301-604-3558.

accommodations once guests are in the hotel. 72-hour notice is required for changes/cancellations.

MSFCCA MEMBER ASSOCIATIONS

If you are a member of one of the FAMILY CHILD CARE ASSOCIATIONS listed below, you are a member of MSFCCA, and may take advantage of the member rate for this conference ONLY if you include a COPY of your MSFCCA card. As of 3/08 the following are members of MSFCCA: Allegany, Anne Arundel, Baltimore City, Baltimore Co., Professional Family childcare Network of Baltimore City, Calvert, Caroline, Carroll, Cecil, Charles, , Frederick, Harford, Howard, Kent\Queen Anne's, Montgomery, Prince George's, Prince George's Professional Network, Queen Anne's Co., St. Mary's, Talbot and Washington Co.

CANCELLATION POLICY: Registration fees are NON-REFUNDABLE due to the expense of preparing and planning for this event.

If you are looking for someone to share a room, a ride or both please call Josie Lohman at 301-776-8309.

Maryland State Family Child Care Association Conference

Maryland State Family Child Care Association Conference

MSFCCA CONFERENCE REGISTRATION FORM

Choose workshops wisely. **THERE WILL BE NO CHANGES MADE AT THE CONFERENCE.**
If you do not wish to attend any of the sessions, please **CIRCLE "NOT ATTENDING"** so the conference committee knows you are not taking a class.

NO PHONE CALLS WILL BE MADE TO VERIFY SELECTIONS.

GIVE 3 CHOICES OR WE WILL HAVE TO CHOOSE FOR YOU

*Please Circle Your Choices

1st CHOICE	A	B	C	D	E	Not Attending	FRIDAY MINI SESSION (4:00pm – 6:00 pm)
2nd CHOICE	A	B	C	D	E	Not Attending	
3rd CHOICE	A	B	C	D	E	Not Attending	

GIVE 3 CHOICES OR WE WILL HAVE TO CHOOSE FOR YOU

*Please Circle Your Choices

SAT. AM SESSION (9:30am - 11:30 am)						SAT. PM SESSION (2:00pm - 4:00 pm)						
1st CHOICE	F	G	H	I	J	Not Attending	K	L	M	N	O	Not Attending
2nd CHOICE	F	G	H	I	J	Not Attending	K	L	M	N	O	Not Attending
3rd CHOICE	F	G	H	I	J	Not Attending	K	L	M	N	O	Not Attending

GIVE 3 CHOICES OR WE WILL HAVE TO CHOOSE FOR YOU

*Please Circle Your Choices

1st CHOICE	A	B	C	D	E	Not Attending	SATURDAY MINI SESSION (4:15pm – 5:45 pm)
2nd CHOICE	A	B	C	D	E	Not Attending	
3rd CHOICE	A	B	C	D	E	Not Attending	

THERE WILL BE NO ON-SITE REGISTRATION

PLEASE CIRCLE THE AMOUNTS THAT PERTAIN TO YOUR PAYMENT

	Early Bird (By 8/15/08)	Regular (By 9/15/08)	
Member	\$150 (Friday Dinner/Dance Included)	\$170 (Friday Dinner/Dance Included)	_____
Non-Member	\$190 (Friday Dinner/Dance Included)	\$210 (Friday Dinner/Dance Included)	_____
SAT ONLY Member	\$115	\$135	_____
SAT ONLY Non-Member	\$160	\$175	_____

Guests are welcome for **Friday Night Dinner/Dance Only** at a cost of \$40.00/person, child or adult (your Friday Dinner/Dance is included in your registration fee). If you wish to bring a guest, please mark the number of guests below and be sure to include the additional amount.

Friday Night Dinner Guests Qty. _____ @ \$40/each

Total: _____

PLEASE SELECT PAYMENT TYPE

Name: _____

Account Number: _____

Expiration Date: _____

Authorization Code: _____

Signature : _____

Cancellation Policy: Registration fees are NON-REFUNDABLE due to the expense of preparing and planning for this event. REGISTRATIONS POSTMARKED AFTER 9/15/08 WILL NOT BE ACCEPTED

QUESTIONS? Please call Cathy Greer at 301-604-3558 or e-mail her at littlemunchkins8@hotmail.com
(Please complete other side of registration form)

Maryland State Family Child Care Association Conference

Maryland State Family Child Care Association Conference

MSFCCA CONFERENCE REGISTRATION FORM

MAIL: Check payable to MSFCCA or signed credit card form on the other side of registration form, Registration form and a **COPY (NOT the original)** of your MSFCCA membership card to:

MSFCCA Conference
c/o Arlene Ennis
9731 Williamsburg Drive
Upper Marlboro, MD 20772

FULL REGISTRATION FEE INCLUDES: Friday Mini-Session, Friday Dinner/Dance, Saturday Breakfast, Saturday AM & PM Sessions, Saturday Lunch with Keynote Speaker, Saturday Mini Sessions, Sunday Breakfast and Sunday General Session. Saturday Dinner is **ON YOUR OWN**.

SATURDAY ONLY REGISTRATION FEE INCLUDES: Saturday Breakfast, Saturday AM & PM Sessions, Saturday Lunch with Keynote Speaker and Saturday Mini Session. **Saturday Dinner and Sunday Breakfast are NOT INCLUDED**

PLEASE **PRINT CLEARLY** – (Complete entire form – front and back)

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Phone – Daytime _____ Evening _____

E-Mail _____ (ex. littlemunchkins@hotmail)

County _____

Do you wish your name to be on a list of attendees given to the Vendors/Exhibitors? Yes _____ No _____
MSFCCA Member? Yes _____ No _____ *If yes, you **MUST** include a **COPY** of your MSFCCA Membership card or you will be responsible for the non-member fee.

Are you a local Association Officer? If yes, your title _____

FRIDAY DINNER MENU CHOICE: Select ONE or indicate that you will not be joining us for dinner. (It is included in your registration fee)

*Eastern Shore Platter _____ ** Eastern Shore Platter w/o Crab Cake _____ Vegetarian _____ Not Joining _____

GUEST DINNER: Cost \$40 (Dinner/Dance only, Friday 7:00 pm)

*Eastern Shore Platter _____ **Eastern Shore Platter w/o Crab Cake _____ Vegetarian _____ Not Joining _____

*Eastern Shore Platter: 2 pieces of fried chicken, 1 slice of ham and 1 crab cake

**Eastern Shore Platter w/o Crab Cake: 3 pieces of fried chicken and 1 slice of ham

Maryland State Family Child Care Association Conference

Prime Time Children's and Youth Activity Center in Owings, MD

Receives Second Place Honors in 2008 National Child Care Center of the Year Awards

Entering the three-year olds' room at Prime Time Children's and Youth Activity Center in Owings, MD., is like being swallowed up in a watery ocean world of imagination, color and wonder. Each room at the Center is decorated with a special theme that inspires play and creativity for the youngsters; for three-year olds, the theme is under the sea.

Owner and Center Director Brenda Tyrrell greets the children and 15 slightly messy faces look up from their morning snack of Pop-Tarts and milk to sing-song their good morning to "Miss Brenda." "This is what it's all about," she says. "We're raising our future leaders here and we want this to be a place that feels like home."

Tyrell and her crew have much to be proud of these days. In February, they were selected as a finalist for 2008 National Child Care Center of the Year. This recognition would be bestowed at the Annual Conference of the National Association of Child Care Professionals (NACCP) in New Orleans.

On April 17th, Tyrell was pleased to learn they had won second place. "Of course, I

would have preferred first place, but since this is only our third year with the association and it is a nationwide honor that required in-person verification by a member of the Association, we're still very happy with our placement. To me, it's a pat on the back from professionals in our field that says we're doing a good job here."

The award is given to a child care center that best demonstrates the association's beliefs in strong curriculum development, knowledge of early childhood education, best business practices, family interaction, creativity, leadership, community efforts and professional development. NACCP is a 1,700 member association based in Austin, Texas with members throughout the United States and Canada.



"Maryland First Inclusive Child Care Training Series"

PACT: Helping Children with Special Needs in partnership with Abilities Network (Project ACT) is creating the "Maryland First Inclusive Child Care Training Series." The training series is designed for two specific audiences:

- 1) Maryland State Department of Education, Office of Child Care (MSDE/OCC) Regional Managers, Licensing Supervisors and Licensing



Specialists, and 2) Child Care Center Directors.

Services will be offered in the Maryland geographical areas of Baltimore City, and Baltimore, Harford, Cecil, and Prince George's Counties. Trainings will be offered at the annual Health and Safety Training for Licensing staff on May 28th and 29th. A training schedule will be available by the end of March for the geographical areas of Baltimore City, and Baltimore, Harford, Cecil, and Prince George's Counties. For further information or to register for a training, please contact Christal Dean at: CDean@abilitiesnetwork.org or call her at 410-828-7700 Ext: 1274.

Playground and Water Safety Guidelines



The Maryland State Department of Education (MSDE) is pleased to provide the Playground and Water Safety Guidelines that provide a framework for medically and scientifically based Safety education for providers responsible for the safety of children and youth.

The Guidelines were developed by the Playground and Water Safety workgroup which included representation from MSDE, the Maryland Department of Health and Mental Hygiene, Baltimore City Department of Recreation and Parks, National Child Care Information and Technical Assistance Center, National Resource Center for Health and Safety in Child care and Early Education, Maryland

Committee for Children, Maryland State Child Care Association, Baltimore County YMCA Head Start, Maryland School Age Child Care Alliance, and many others. They reflect the current federal and state standards and refer to practices that have been recommended by national associations.

These guidelines are designed for practitioners and administrators who work with young children and should be used as guidance in ensuring safety at playgrounds and swimming pools while children enjoy the excitement and pleasures of play and learning.

The Guidelines are available online at www.MarylandPublicSchools.org



Regulatory Restructuring

Office of Child Care

Late in 2007, the Office of Child Care (OCC) completed a review of family child care, child care center, and letter of compliance regulations targeted at identifying and eliminating redundant requirements and making the regulations more "user-friendly." For many years, Maryland's licensing regulations have been criticized for spreading related requirements across two or more regulations. This fragmentation has led to some compliance items having to undergo duplicate assessments under different regulations during the same inspection. It has also made it more difficult for providers to get a complete picture of compliance expectations for some items.

To address these problems, OCC has completely reorganized the licensing regulations to group them by categories of related activities or requirements. Under this reorganization, each category is designated as a separate regulation, and related requirements

are reconfigured as sections and subsections under that regulation.

In addition to the restructuring, certain regulations have been revised to clarify compliance requirements or to remove inconsistent, obsolete, or unnecessary requirements. Certain other regulations have been amended to promote a safer and healthier child care environment.

Detailed summaries of the proposed changes to all three COMAR chapters have been posted on the main Licensing Branch page of the OCC website at: http://www.marylandpublicschools.org/MSDE/divisions/child_care/licensing_branch/licensing_branch.htm.

The full text of the changes will be published in the Maryland Register in early July. It is anticipated that the regulation changes will take effect in early September.

The Science Road Show Kicks Off Its First e-Newsletter



PRINCE GEORGE'S CHILD
RESOURCE CENTER, INC

The e-Newsletter is a new feature of the Prince George's County Child Resource Center, Inc. A monthly newsletter packed with preschool science activities and ideas for recognizing science in your everyday world. The newsletter will highlight a few local programs and events, activity ideas, science table tips, and a

recommended list of books from a Prince George's Memorial Library System librarian.

The e-newsletter is a resource created to help you learn about science topics and use that information with the children you care for.

Check for the newsletter at www.childresource.org.

Parent Teacher Organization



Robert Moton Elementary

westminster, maryland

Judy Center, PNC and Education Foundation to Sponsor School Readiness Camps

On Friday, May 23, 2008, a special announcement was made from the Judy Center at the Robert Moton Elementary School, Westminster, MD., regarding the creation of a partnership between the Carroll County Judy Center and PNC Bank. The PNC Foundation is responsible for making this possible. Representatives from PNC Bank, the Carroll County Public Schools Education Foundation, the school system, and a number of students attended the event.

This alliance is establishing School Readiness Camps with a donation of \$20,000 from PNC Bank and a \$5,000 donation from the Carroll County Public Schools Education Foundation. Together the Carroll County Judy Center, PNC Bank and the Education Foundation will provide camps to increase the school readiness of identified youth so that they will have the best possible start to succeed in school. In addition to the announcement, there was an explanation of the program by PNC and school system representatives.

PNC has a long history of strengthening and enriching the lives of its neighbors in communities in which they live and work. To build on this commitment, PNC Grow Up Great, a 10-year, \$100 million investment to help improve the school readiness was launched. The Grow Up Great program is now entering its fifth year.

Despite Carroll County's affluence, it ranks in the bottom fourth of the state on readiness

measures. a child's ability to enter kindergarten with the skills that make them ready to learn. It is important that the school system and the community need address the underlying causes and increase the school readiness of our youth.

The camps will serve approximately 100 identified four and five-year old children at five locations in Carroll County during a four week period in the summer. Each of the five camps will serve 15 - 20 children, specifically identified by their CCPS pre-Kindergarten teachers and community partners as needing additional academic intervention prior to starting kindergarten. The camps will be staffed by highly qualified teachers and assistants. All camps will include breakfast and lunch, as there is a clear correlation between nutrition and education.

The camps will consist of half-day sessions, four days a week for four weeks. The children will be primarily low-income, but school-readiness factors are the main eligibility criteria for participation. There will be no cost to the families for the camp.





FREE TRAININGS DESIGNED FOR

Child Care Center
Directors/Assistant Directors

MSDE/OCC Regional Managers,
Licensing Supervisors
and Licensing Specialists

Project Include-a partnership between PACT: Helping Children with Special Needs and Abilities Network's Project ACT- invites you to attend these free trainings designed to assist you to be better able to support the center staff you oversee in the value and principles of inclusive practices.

The location and dates for the trainings held in Baltimore County are listed below. Trainings will be from 10 am-12 pm. Successful completion of each training will provide two [2] Core of Knowledge Hours.



Abilities Network
8503 LaSalle Road
Towson, Maryland 21286
www.abilitiesnetwork.org

July 16, 2008

Attention Deficit Hyperactivity
Disorder (ADHD)

August 26, 2008

Community Connections: Utilizing
Resources to Make Your Job Easier

September 18, 2008

Including Children with Disabilities
and Special Health Care Needs



Cecil County Public Library
Elkton Central
301 Newark Ave.
Elkton, Maryland 21921
410-996-5600

July 23, 2008

Typical/Atypical Early Child
Development

August 6, 2008

Attention Deficit Hyperactivity
Disorder (ADHD)

September 15, 2008

Community Connections: Utilizing
Resources to Make Your Job Easier



Prince George's Child
Resource Center
9475 Lottsford Road
Largo, Maryland 20774
www.childresource.org

July 1, 2008

Attention Deficit Hyperactivity
Disorder (ADHD)

August 13, 2008

Community Connections: Utilizing
Resources to Make Your Job Easier

September 16, 2008

Typical/Atypical Early Child
Development

Registration is required for these trainings. Please contact Christal Dean at 410-828-7700 x1203 7 days prior to the appropriate training date.

For further information contact
Mandy Barish, 410 298-1997, x1022.

These trainings are provided under
a grant from the Maryland State
Department of Education.



Program Development Branch Upcoming Activity

LATE SPRING/SUMMER 2008

Earned Income Credit
Small Procurement >\$25,000

(Vendor will implement/manage campaign to
increase awareness of the federal/state Earned
Income Credit)

Infant and Toddler Expansion Project
Small Procurement >\$25,000

(Vendors will expand child care service to
Infants and Toddlers)

Infant and Toddler Expansion Contracts
Request for Proposals

(Expansion of program and child care
service for Infants and Toddlers)

State Clearinghouse Calendar
Request for Proposals

(Develop On-line and copies of Annual
Statewide Child Care Trainings)

Infant and Toddler Training
Request for Proposals

(Training/Mentoring Program based on
Guidelines for Healthy Child Development /
Care of Young Children Birth to 3)

Special Needs Training
Request for Proposals

(Deliver Training/Mentoring services to
child care providers caring for special
needs children birth to 5)

School Age Training
Request for Proposals

(Develop/deliver training modules reflecting
national standards for school-age child care)

Please refer to the Maryland Public Schools
www.marylandpublicschools.org/MSDE and the
www.emarylandmarketplace/

Websites for posting of MSDE Grants and
Contracts. A good suggestion is to consult both
websites regularly on a weekly basis.

Cambridge Who's Who Inducts Amy Dapsauski as a V.I.P. Member for Excellence in Child Care Advocacy

Frederick, MD, March 27, 2008, Amy Dapsauski, Director of Training and Technical Assistance for the Maryland State Family Child Care Association, has been recognized by Cambridge Who's Who for showing dedication, leadership and excellence in all aspects of child care advocacy. Ms. Dapsauski has an impressive background in her field. Ms. Dapsauski received her Master of Science in Curriculum and Instruction, with a Concentration in Early Childhood Education from Hood College 2007. She is an National Association for Family Child Care Observer and

CDA Advisor. She served previously on the Executive Boards of both the Family Child Care Association of Frederick County and the Maryland State Family Child Care Association.

The Maryland State Family Child Care Association is a child care advocacy group that works to improve and reform child care services including early childhood education programs, technical assistance resources and training. For more information on the Maryland State Family Child Care Association, visit <http://www.msfccca.org>.

Partners



*A Publication from the Maryland
State Department of Education*

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If you have any questions or comments about this publication, please contact Myra White-Gray, editor, at 410-767-7863.



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